

Claims

I claim:

1. A film holding apparatus for use with a scanner, said film holding apparatus being configured to selectively hold a first film and a second film to be scanned, said first film being thicker than said second film, said film holding apparatus comprising:
a base having a surface;
a plate being vertically movably disposed above said surface of said base, said plate having a surface for selectively receiving said first film and said second film;
and
a pressing unit disposed above said plate;
wherein said plate vertically moves for a distance towards said base as said surface of said plate receives said first film, and wherein said second film is held between said surface of said plate and said pressing unit as said surface of said plate receives said second film.
2. The film holding apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said pressing unit movably engages with said base.
3. The film holding apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said pressing unit has an end pivotally coupled to said base.
4. The film holding apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said pressing unit has an end having at least one latch engaged with said base.

5. The film holding apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said surface of said base comprises a recess, said plate is vertically movably accommodated in said recess.
6. The film holding apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said base further comprises a first guiding device, disposed on said surface surrounding said recess, for positioning said first film.
7. The film holding apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said first guiding device comprises at least two angle-typed flanges.
8. The film holding apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an elastic element disposed between said surface of said base and said plate, wherein said elastic element has an end in contact with a bottom surface of said plate, and wherein said elastic element provides said plate with a resilient force as said plate vertically moves towards said base.
9. The film holding apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said elastic element is a spring leaf.
10. The film holding apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said elastic element is a spring.
11. The film holding apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said pressing unit has a first sloped portion on a first side of said pressing unit, said first sloped portion co-operates with said plate to define an opening allowing access to said first film.

12. The film holding apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said plate has a second sloped portion, corresponding to said first sloped portion of said pressing unit, on a first side of said plate, said second sloped portion and said first sloped portion forms an opening allowing access to said first film.
13. The film holding apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said opening selectively allows access to said second film.
14. The film holding apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said base has a first opening and said plate has a second opening corresponding to said first opening, said first and second openings allow a user to access to said film to be scanned.
15. The film holding apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said plate further comprises a second guiding device, disposed on said surface, for selectively guiding movement of said second film.
16. The film holding apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said second guiding device comprises two raised tracks, said second film is held between said surface of said plate and said pressing unit and constrained by said two raised tracks as said surface of said plate receives said second film and said pressing unit engages with said base.
17. The film holding apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said surface of said plate is in a same level as said surface of said base, as said surface of said plate receives said second film and said pressing unit engages with said base.

18. The film holding apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first film is a positive film and said second film is a negative film.